The Columbus, Hocking Valley and Toledo Railway Co.

Office of General Superintendent.

L. B. Carr,
Genl. Superintendent.

Columbus, O., August 27, 1900.

W. [illegible], Esq.

[illegible], O. & H. V. R. R.

[illegible], Ills.

Dear Sir;---I received a letter from Mr. J. D. Hosler, [illegible] light of your [illegible], dated the 21st inst., [illegible] Engineer Thomas Humphreys, one of our locomotive engineers, [illegible] has been doing some writing and have sent us [illegible] of your employees and firemen. I replied to Mr. Hosler that I was sure it was [illegible] that you [illegible] some writing for [illegible] that we had made a [illegible] copy of a circular [illegible] several [illegible] of the C. H. V. R. R., in which account your company had afterward collected [illegible] amount.

[illegible] to those proceedings were [illegible], Humphreys called on me [illegible] to find out how [illegible], stating that he had [illegible] that proceedings had been [illegible], and that he [illegible] I [illegible] that he had [illegible] to do [illegible], and that he [illegible] with the petitioning of the [illegible], that he was [illegible] of the matter [illegible] at all, and that he could not [illegible] from it on that account. It also is true that he was not [illegible] to sign [illegible] on that account. [illegible] Railroad Commissioners' [illegible]

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[illegible] that on [illegible], I had been arrested for the same cause that Howard had been. He further stated that he believed himself to be innocent of any evil intent in the case, as he had never been connected with the matter, although he said that he might have been and he not know of it.

Humphreys says that Howe brought him a memorandum and asked him to [illegible] about two copies of it on the typewriter; that he had done a considerable amount of writing for him and that he did this work, among without question or examination. He says the circulars were folded, put in envelopes, and addressed by a number of carriers and drivers who were in the room at the Republican headquarters. He further said that afterwards (he did not know how long, but I would suppose that it was about the time these circulars were sent out,) there was some general talk in the room as to the propriety of sending out such a circular, and Mr. Humphreys remarked to Howe that he might get into trouble on account of it; to which Howe replied that if the matter came up he would claim that the circular was a forgery. It appears that he did do this when the matter became public. Humphreys says that even then he did not have any very hard reflections upon the employment that it did not occur to him that there was [illegible] position in which [illegible] not place [illegible] on account of the results. It [illegible] on to narrate more conversation [illegible] some others of these gentle-

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-sence, would drive home the fact that a railroad commissioner of a neighboring state (state name illegible) was present at that time and was very partial---being strongly in favor of the boycott on other lines, that is, for the men to strike on other lines which handled your cars. He told me his name and I have forgotten it. Brough himself was very conservative on this point, and conveyed it, as did a majority of members from the eastern lines.

They were sentimental a number of other things which were of no particular importance, in my estimation, but it occurred to me that you would want to know the feeling as to the temper of the crowd, and that as Mr. Brougher called on you, that could not get information from him. You needed by a little judicious questioning.

I advised him to go to see you, saying to him that after he saw you and fully explained to you precisely how he came to be connected with the convention, you would probably not criticise him if it could be avoided. He then consulted Mr. Geo. K. Nash, ex-Attorney General of this state, a man of prominence and of good character, who then called on me to see for himself what I thought of the case. I told him that I thought that the best thing he could do was to call on you and explain fully; and that I would give him a letter of explain and what kind of a man he was, and I took it through the courtesy and from this I

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that I did not care to put in the one that I sent you by telegraph. My object was that of the railroad company's attorneys and officials, that you could, by careful inquiry, probably get almost anything in the way of information that you might require.

Humphreys also made a statement relative to the placing the dynamite bombs on the track; that the man who did it had come there to run an engine and had been persuaded to quit and join the strikers' organization under promise of receiving the same pay that the others did during the time they were idle. As we understand it, the afterward reported the affair to your company.

man who went with the person who did it

As stated before, I did not pay much close attention to what Humphreys did tell me, as I knew that you could get what you needed better than I could, by questioning him; but it seems that that letter which was marked "Personal" and which was sent through the mail did not reach you. While it is not strange that the one that Humphreys carried did not reach you, it is a little strange that the other did not.

I send you this by Mr. Jean T. Dervin, the special agent of this company, who does all of our detective work.

I feel sure that I can not urge you to go to see you at any time you may desire. He will tell you the truth on any point about which you may question him. If you have any papers there from Gore's headquarters, he would say whether or not he had written them. If you

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will specify how any are to [illegible] the balance of cattle [illegible] or not.

If there is any information I can get for you, I will be glad to do so.

Yours truly,

O. H. Carr

Gen. Supt.

JUL 23 1888

Decatur Ill.
July 22nd 188

Mr. Henry B. Stone
General Manager
C. B. & Q. Ry. Chicago

My Dear Sir: The press dispatches inform us that your old engineers, at several points visited by Mr. Hoge & Mr. Murphy, have rejected the proffered terms of compromise.
Several points, or divisions are yet to be heared from. While it is possible the vote of these divisions may rule in favor of an immediate settlement, I fear it will be otherwise.

I feel sorry and disgusted, - sorry that they will be so blind to their best interests, and - disgusted that they are incapable of appreciating the kindness of your offer; - but take it for a show of weakness on your part, and an - indication of their sure triumph, if they only remain "Solid" a little while longer.
I send you a circular letter which I received

this morning on my arrival here.- from the engineers at Beardstown.

I suppose it expresses the sentiments of the men at that place; and I send it to you that you may know how these men reason among themselves. I thought I would write a letter, an open letter, to the striking engineers of your road, and try to show them the folly of their position, and induce them to accept the compromise.

I even went so far as to write several pages of such a letter, but on further thought abandoned it as useless. It would only raise an uproar, and do no good. Had I thought the proposition would have been recieved so unfavorably by the men, or that - Mr. Arthur would have made no greater effort than he has to have it accepted,- I should have suggested the advisability of my accompanying them on their trip. But perhaps that too, would have been in vain.

I had a conversation with Mr. Arthur Monday evening, in which he expressed himself as much pleased with the conference, and the outlook. He spoke in the strongest terms of the folly and disgrace of the Hoge Circular. How he had reproved him, and told him if the Burlington people would get ahold of that circular they would send him to State prison. He replied saying that there was no chance of that as it could not be traced to him. Mr. Arthur said that if Mr. Sargent was put on the stand, his evidence would convict Hoge, as he was in Chicago at the time the circular was issued, and remonstrated with Hoge about doing such a disgraceful thing.

I shall be greatly disappointed if your old engineers allow this their last chance for reinstatement, to pass unimproved.

I think I understand your position, and I believe

it was in a spirit of kindness, more than anything else, that you offered to take them back, as opportunity offered.

In the conversation before mentioned with Mr. Arthur he admitted that he had the power to order the strike off, - but that in doing so "he would be assuming unwarranted athority," for which, if not sustained by the next Convention, he might be impeached.

He said he did not want to do that, but that the circumstances seamed to justify it.

As it has been said that the power of the Grand Chief of the B. of L. E. ~~had~~ been to declare a strike off, had been taken away from him at the Chicago convention. I have looked the matter up. You remember I told you that this had not been done. Mr. Harvey said in our presence that it had. It was at the New York Convention in 1886 that an iron clad resolution was adopted, forbidding the Grand Chief approving of any settlement, which

included classification of pay.
In other words if the engineers had a grievance on any road where this practice of classification existed, their committee could settle the grievance if possible.
But if the Grand Chief was sent for, no settlement could be agreed to unless classification be abolished entirely. As a modification of this, the following resolution was adopted at the Chicago Convention, last October.
"Resolved: That hereafter when a grievance arises on any system of roads that includes classification of wages, the general grievance committee make no settlement with the railroad company, unless they abolish the classification of wages. But if the Grand Chief Engineer is called to make a settlement, that he, with the consent of the majority of the Brothers employed on the road where the trouble exists, may accept the best possible settlement. And that all laws conflicting with this be, and hereby are, repealed."

you see, there is nothing in this forbidding the Grand Chief declaring a strike off. The athority simply, it has never been confered. So to "assume" the athority he would have to judge if the circumstances were such as to justify such an action.
It may be that in order to save the Brotherhood from the disgrace of Hoge going to State prison, he will do this, as I feel sure, (now that I have consulted the records) he would have done, to surpress from the public the Hoge Circular.

But I am drifting into a long letter, and must close. I want to say however, that I felt quite proud last Monday evening when you expressed the sentiments of appreciation that you did. The recollection of the occasion, and the words, will always remain a pleasant memory.

Yours Respectfully
George H. Baker

P.S. am in Chicago mondays, Wednesday & Friday evenings. If I can be of service to you am always willing.
73 E de St.
Chicago

(Copy)

Beardstown, Ill.,July 19 - 1888.

To the loyal ones that do not think the strike a failure.

You bet we are"solid" and think that we are bound to win with but few if any concessions. There are points that cannot be conceded, and call the strike a success: that is, going back in any other way, but in a body and anything but the pay asked for.

If these two points are given up, what would the strike amount to but a failure? According to the information we have received in regard to the late conference held at the Co's office between our representatives and "Q" officials, the meeting was brought about by the "Q", and it looks plain enough to us that if they will ask for a conference after having maintained for so long a time that there was nothing to arbitrate, and the strike was off, they certainly are in a bad condition, and rather than have the road go into the hands of a receiver, they will come to our terms sooner or later, if we continue Solid in the future as we have in the past. It may take several months yet, but it had better be a year rather than suffer defeat after the effort that has been made; and the money that has been spent, we could not look one of our outside Brothers in the face if we were to vote to declare the strike off after they have been so faithful in supporting us. We do not believe it can be done, no matter who may advocate it. Bro. L. W. Rogers gave us an Elocutionary Entertainment at the Library Hall last evening,

which was well appreciated by all present. He cleared $34.80 which is about all that could be expected from as scabby a town as this is.

Yours fraternally,

Geo. Wheatley,

(Signed) D. A. Sherman.

Per Com'